

I claim:-

1. A flue cleaner comprising a containment vessel having an opening providing restricted communication between the interior and exterior of the vessel, the vessel being formed of a non-combustible heat resistant material, the interior of the vessel containing a soot removal agent.
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2. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the containment vessel is formed of metal.
3. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the containment vessel is formed of steel.
- 10 4. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the opening is closed by a closure formed of a material which will be consumed slowly upon the flue cleaner being placed in a fire.
- 15 5. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the soot removal agent is encased within the vessel within a settable composition which will harden once being introduced into the vessel and which will be consumed slowly upon the flue cleaner being placed in a fire.
6. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 5 wherein the composition comprises a mixture of sawdust and a binding agent.
- 20 7. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the composition controls and restricts the combustion of the sawdust when the flue cleaner is placed in a fire.
8. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the soot removal agent is selected from zinc, tin, aluminium or any combination thereof.
- 25 9. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the soot removal agent is coated on a substrate.

10. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 9 wherein the substrate comprises a metal foil and/or sheeting.
- 5 11. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the soot removal agent comprises a quantity of particles and/or granules of the soot removal agent.
12. A flue cleaner as claimed at any one of claims wherein the soot removal agent is formed as a single body.
13. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 12 wherein the soot removal agent is formed as an ingot.
- 10 14. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 1 wherein the vessel comprises a length of tube, at least one end of the tube being open.
15. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 14 said at least one end being partially closed.
- 15 16. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 15 said at least one end being partially closed by an inwardly directed flange to define the opening.
17. A flue cleaner as claimed at claim 14 wherein the tube has a substantially elliptical cross-section and each end is provided with a dumbbell or "figure-8" profile.